

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Testing

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR VIRGINIA

The Board of Education has approved the use of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview and the Writing Proficiency Test to allow native speakers or candidates who have learned a foreign language without formal academic credit in a college or university to meet the foreign language endorsement requirements by demonstrating proficiency on the both the oral and written assessments.

The **ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview** takes the form of a carefully structured conversation between a trained and certified interviewer and the person whose speaking proficiency is being assessed. The interview lasts from ten to thirty minutes.

The **ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test** is a standardized procedure for the global assessment of functional writing ability. The test requires the examinee to read prompts in English and compose written responses in the target language without the aid of dictionaries or grammar references.

Written tests are available in the following languages: **Albanian, Arabic, French, German, Haitian Creole, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.**

The Board of Education approved the proficiency level of “**advanced low**” for the ACTFL tests.

An individual may register for the tests online. The costs of the assessments are as follows: Oral Proficiency Interview -- \$134; Writing Proficiency Test -- \$65; Rescheduling Fee -- \$55; Missed OPI appointment/No Show -- \$55; Express Processing Service -- \$50.

More detailed information concerning these tests as well as application forms can be found at these links:

Detailed information: <http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/newvdoe/ACTFLproficiency.pdf>
Application: <http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/newvdoe/ACTFLproficiencyform.pdf>

For information about arranging for a proctor for testing, contact Marty Abbott at the ACTFL office in Alexandria, VA at 703-894-2900.